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been prepared. Under the provisions of Article 340 of the Constitution of India, the Government of India have appointed a Backward Classes Commission to enquire into the conditions of socially and educationally backward classes in all the States and to recommend the criteria for inclusion of any community in the list of backward classes and to prepare such a list for the approval of the President of the Republic of India. The Commission has recently toured the various States and its report is expected to be submitted to the Government of India shortly. Pending the report of the Commission, requests for inclusion in the list of backward classes are not considered. However, in deserving cases, specific instructions are issued to the Director of Public Instruction to allow educational concessions pending revision of the list. I do not think further clarification is needed on this subject."

11-50 a.m. SRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN :—" May I know the criterion that is taken into consideration in the preparation of this backward class lists? Are Government taking into consideration the educational backwardness only or any other factor? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, just now I have explained the position. I do not think further clarification is necessary."

Formation of industrial co-operatives.

* 391 *Q.*—SRI N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any proposal to form industrial co-operatives in the State;

(*b*) if so, the amount to be allotted by the Centre and the State for this purpose; and

(*c*) the number of industries that will be benefited by these industrial co-operatives?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) & (*c*) As the proposal is still under consideration, no definite information on these points is available."

SRI N. K. PALANISAMY :—" When will this come into force, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The matter is under investigation, Sir."

Madras Medium Cotton Mill Cloth (Sales Tax) Bill, 1954.

* 392 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Madras Medium Cotton Mill Cloth (Sales tax) Bill, 1954, as passed by the Assembly has been sent to the President for assent; and

(*b*) if so, when it was sent?